

MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS  
Tuesday, January 20, 2004, at 9:00 a.m.  
**State Capitol Building, Room 303**

PRESENT: Lt. Governor Karl Ohs, State Auditor John Morrison, Attorney General Mike McGrath, Secretary of State Bob Brown, and Superintendent of Public Instruction Linda McCulloch

Motion was made by Mr. Morrison to approve the minutes from the regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Land Commissioners held December 15, 2003. Seconded by Ms. McCulloch. Motion carried unanimously.

BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED

903-1      DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS SALE OF WHITEFISH ARMORY  
FINAL APPROVAL

This item was before the Board for preliminary approval in September 2003, and since that time the Department of Military Affairs has proceeded to complete the Board-approved steps necessary for the transfer. The eight-step process is highlighted in the Board's packets and today's approval will be the completion of step seven. The only remaining step is the closing and conveyance of title. Mr. Clinch recommended approval of the sale of this property.

Brigadier General Randy Mosley, DMA, urged the Board to give final approval to the sale and transfer of property.

Gary Marks, Manager, City of Whitefish, said this is a project the city is very excited about. The Armory has always been an integral part of the community, and this project affords the opportunity to continue that tradition. The Armory sits on a five-acre parcel of property adjacent to Armory Park, which is a public park. We intend to relandscape the five-acre parcel, install a Veteran's Memorial using a monument and park area, put in parking areas, and for the building itself we will create a small tribute to the history of the Armory. There will be artifacts near the entrance and script about the history of the building. Inside we will refurbish the bay area for basketball, volleyball, and youth activities available for community functions. The west side of the building in the sealed off area, we will take the existing indoor firing range and make it available for local police and other law enforcement to use for training purposes. We will recondition offices for parks and recreation programs. If approval is granted today, the City Council is prepared to approve a \$700,000 appropriation for this project's improvements. Our tentative completion date is Veteran's Day 2004, with a dedication at that time.

Motion was made by Mr. Brown to approve the sale of the Whitefish Armory. Seconded by Mr. Morrison. Motion carried unanimously.

104-1      LANG CREEK TIMBER SALE

The Lang Creek Timber Sale is a proposed harvest of 730 acres across two individual sections of state land. It is located approximately 30 air miles SW of Kalispell. The purpose is to return

MINUTES  
January 20, 2004  
BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS  
Page 2

the stand to a healthy and vigorous historical condition. There is minimal new road construction and all existing roads will be improved and reconstructed to meet current BMPs. The department's archaeologist completed a records search and found no cultural or historical sites. Consistent with the departments timber sales, it solicited notice through newspapers and letters to interested parties, adjacent landowners, lessees, and special interest groups. Comments were used to develop mitigation measures that have been incorporated into this project design. No significant environmental impacts will result. The harvest volume is 28,161 tons which will generate approximately \$543,586.00 in revenue. In addition, there will be a \$10.23 Forest Improvement Fee. Mr. Clinch requested approval of the proposed sale.

Motion was made by Ms. McCulloch to approve the Land Creek Timber Sale. Seconded by Mr. Morrison. Motion carried unanimously.

104-2      RIGHTS-OF-WAY APPLICATIONS

This month there are 39 rights-of-way applications, including private access roads, utility corridors, and other easement types. There are no items of controversy. No. 11995 is from Edward Hammond for a private access road; #12322 is from Macum Energy for a 3 inch plastic gasoline gathering pipe; #12325 is from Ravalli County Electric Co-op for a buried single phase powerline; #12323 is from J.T. Weisner, Weisner Ranch for a buried irrigation pipeline; #12324 is from Ray Milam for an access road to a single family residence; #12240 is from Ft. Peck Assiniboine & Sioux Tribes for a water intake pipeline; #12249 is from Qwest for a buried telecommunication cable; #12255 and 12256 are from Big Flat Electric Co-op for overhead electric distribution lines; #12261 is from the Department of Transportation for a highway bridge construction and maintenance; #12262 is from Larry Adams for an access road to single family residence; #12263, 12264, 12265, 12266, 12267, 12268, 12269, 12270, 12271, and 12272 are from Fallon County for public roads; 12273, 12274, 12275, 12276, and 12277 are from Hill County Electric Co-op; #12278, 12279, 12280, 12282, 12283, 12284, 12285, 12286, 12287, 12288, 12289, 12290, and 12291 are from Nemont Telephone Co-op for buried telephone lines. Mr. Clinch requested the Board move on the entire packet.

Motion was made by Mr. McGrath to approve the rights-of-way package. Seconded by Mr. Brown. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Brown introduced his new staff person, Mike Sullivan, who is joining his office from the Department of Agriculture where he has a natural resources background. He used to be the Executive Director of the Kumamoto Prefectural Government Office and he speaks Japanese.

Mr. Brown made the motion to adjourn.